on since 1986. Some of these pesticides are banned in many Western Countries. Central Pollution Control Board along with State Pollution Control Boards are also monitoring the pesticides residues of organo-chlorine pesticides in organisms and sediment in Coastal waters through 107 monitoring stations.

(b) As per the information available, 9 pesticides, namely BHC, DDT, Ethylene Dibromide (EDB), Captarol, 2, 4-D, Carbaryl, Nicotine Sulphate, Phenyl Mercury Acetate (PMA) and Monocrotophos are banned in some of the European Countries and USA but are being used in India.

(c) and (d) Pesticides are toxic by nature and are meant for killing pests. To prevent the toxicity due to the use of highly toxic pesticides due care like registration of safer formulation prescription of precaution during the use are being taken. Moreover, training on safe and judicious use of pesticides is imparted from time to time by different Governmental/Non-Governmental organisations to avoid hazards due to misuse/abuse of pesticides. The Government is advocating Integrated pest Management approach which inter-alia includes cultural, biological and mechanical methods; and need based application of pesticides on the basis of Economic Thershold level, based on monitoring of crop pests.

Counting of service for promotion of officials of agricultural research service

2300. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the service rendered by the Scientists of ICAR in the grade S-O of Agricultural Research service prior to the 1st January, 1986 was not counted for the purpose of placement as well as for promotion to next higher grade at the time of adoption of UGC package with effective from the 1st January, 1986;

(b) whether the CAT, on a case filed by the Scientists and Technical Association had directed that the service rendered by the Scientists in S-O or equivalent grade shall be counted for the purpose of placement and promotions also and that the same was upheld by Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the same has not been implemented so far; and

(e) if so, what are reasons therefor and what action Government propose to take to expedite the implementation of the same and take action against the erring officials for not implementing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHR K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) On the petition filed by the Scientific & Technical Association of IARI, New Delhi, the Hon'ble CAT, Principal Bench, New Delhi has directed that the service rendered by the scientists in S-O or equivalent grade may be counted for the purpose of placement/promotions. A special leave petition was filed by the ICAR in the Supreme Court against this judgement of CAT, but it was not admitted.

(d) and (e) The decision has not been implemented so far, as a review petition alongwith an application for stay has been filed by the ICAR in the Supreme Court. The decision of the Supreme Court is awaited.

Telephone connections in the country

2301. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the State-wise number of telephone connections in the country;